AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An information communication system, comprising:

a plurality of information communication devices,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices is responsive to a respective information communication clock signal, and

wherein each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices is associated with a common reference clock signal; and

a phase controller,

wherein the phase controller is responsive to the common reference clock signal, and

wherein the phase controller alters a phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices by a predetermined amount to at least double a combined ~~frequency~~ amplitude of individual ~~frequencies~~ waveforms of output current events of the plurality of information communication devices.

2. (Original) The information communication system of claim 1,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices is responsive to the common reference clock signal altered by the phase controller, and

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices comprises:

a device clock for generating the respective information communication clock signal using the common reference clock signal.

3. (Original) The information communication system of claim 2, wherein the phase controller alters a phase of the common reference clock signal for each of the plurality of information communication devices by the predetermined amount to alter the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices by the predetermined amount.

4. (Original) The information communication system of claim 1, comprising:

a reference clock signal generator for generating the common reference clock signal.

5. (Original) The information communication system of claim 1, wherein the phase controller alters the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices by a multiple of 90 degrees.

6. (Original) The information communication system of claim 1,

wherein the phase of at least two of the information communication clock signals are substantially identical, and

wherein a number of information communication clock signals with substantially identical phase is less than a total number of information communication clock signals of the information communication system.

7. (Original) The information communication system of claim 1, wherein the phase controller comprises:

a phase locked loop; and

a signal division controller in communication with the phase locked loop,

wherein the signal division controller is configured to control a start time of signal division of an output signal of the phase locked loop,

wherein the output signal is associated with the information communication clock signal, and

wherein the start time of signal division of the output signal is varied to alter the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices.

8. (Original) The information communication system of claim 1, wherein the phase controller comprises:

a plurality of time delay elements.

9. (Original) The information communication system of claim 8, wherein the plurality of time delay elements comprises:

a plurality of delay locked loops.

10. (Original) The information communication system of claim 8,

wherein the plurality of time delay elements are arranged in cascade, and

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices is in communication with at least one of the plurality of time delay elements.

11. (Original) The information communication system of claim 8, wherein the phase controller further comprises:

at least one delay locked loop,

wherein the at least one delay locked loop is in communication with each of the plurality of information communication devices via an information communication channel, and

wherein each information communication channel includes at least one of the plurality of time delay elements.

12. (Original) The information communication system of claim 1, wherein the information communication system comprises an Ethernet transceiver.

13. (Original) The information communication system of claim 12, wherein the Ethernet transceiver is compliant with I.E.E.E. 802.3ab.

14. (Currently Amended) An information communication system, comprising:

a plurality of information communication means,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means is responsive to a respective information communication clock signal, and

wherein each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means is associated with a common reference clock signal; and

phase controller means,

wherein the phase controller means is responsive to the common reference clock signal, and

wherein the phase controller means alters a phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means by a predetermined amount to at least double a combined ~~frequency~~ amplitude of individual ~~frequencies~~ waveforms of output current events of the plurality of information communication means.

15. (Original) The information communication system of claim 14,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means is responsive to the common reference clock signal altered by the phase controller means, and

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means comprises:

means for generating the respective information communication clock signal using the common reference clock signal.

16. (Original) The information communication system of claim 15, wherein the phase controller means alters a phase of the common reference clock signal for each of the plurality of information communication means by the predetermined amount to alter the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means by the predetermined amount.

17. (Original) The information communication system of claim 14, comprising:

means for generating the common reference clock signal.

18. (Original) The information communication system of claim 14, wherein the phase controller means alters the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means by a multiple of 90 degrees.

19. (Original) The information communication system of claim 14,

wherein the phase of at least two of the information communication clock signals are substantially identical,

wherein a number of information communication clock signals with substantially identical phase is less than a total number of information communication clock signals of the information communication system.

20. (Original) The information communication system of claim 14, wherein the phase controller means comprises:

a phase locked loop means; and

a signal division controller means in communication with the phase locked loop means,

wherein the signal division controller means is configured to control a start time of signal division of an output signal of the phase locked loop means,

wherein the output signal is associated with the information communication clock signal, and

wherein the start time of signal division of the output signal is varied to alter the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means.

21. (Original) The information communication system of claim 14, wherein the phase controller means comprises:

a plurality of time delay means.

22. The information communication system of claim 21, wherein the plurality of time delay means comprises:

a plurality of delay locked loop means.

23. (Original) The information communication system of claim 21,

wherein the plurality of time delay means are arranged in cascade, and

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means is in communication with at least one of the plurality of time delay means.

24. (Original) The information communication system of claim 21,

wherein the phase controller means further comprises:

at least one delay locked loop means,

wherein the at least one delay locked loop means is in communication with each of the plurality of information communication means via an information communication channel means, and

wherein each information communication channel means includes at least one of the plurality of time delay means.

25. (Original) The information communication system of claim 14, wherein the information communication system comprises an Ethernet transceiver means.

26. (Original) The information communication system of claim 25, wherein the Ethernet transceiver means is compliant with I.E.E.E. 802.3ab.

27. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling phase of clock signals among a plurality of information communication devices of an information communication system, comprising the steps of:

generating an information communication clock signal in each of the plurality of information communication devices,

wherein each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices is associated with a common reference clock signal; and

altering a phase of each information communication clock signal for each of the plurality of information communication devices by a predetermined amount to at least double a combined ~~frequency~~ amplitude of individual ~~frequencies~~ waveforms of output current events of the plurality of information communication devices.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, further comprising the steps of:

receiving the common reference clock signal in each of the plurality of information communication devices.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the step of generating an information communication clock signal comprises the step of:

generating each information communication clock signal for each of the plurality of information communication devices using the common reference clock signal.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the step of altering comprises the step of:

altering a phase of the common reference clock signal for each of the plurality of information communication devices by the predetermined amount to alter the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices by the predetermined amount.

31. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the step of altering the phase of the common reference clock signal comprises the step of:

time delaying the common reference clock signal supplied to each of the plurality of information communication devices by the predetermined amount.

32. (Original) The method of claim 27, comprising the step of:

generating the common reference clock signal.

33. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the step of altering comprises the step of:

altering the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices by a multiple of 90 degrees.

34. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the step of altering comprises the steps of:

controlling a start time of signal division of an output signal of a phase locked loop,

wherein the output signal is associated with the information communication clock signal; and

varying the start time of signal division of the output signal to alter the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices.

35. (Original) The method of claim 27,

wherein the phase of at least two of the information communication clock signals are substantially identical,

wherein a number of information communication clock signals with substantially identical phase is less than a total number of information communication clock signals of the information communication system.

36. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the method is compliant with I.E.E.E. 802.3ab.

37. (Currently Amended) An information communication system, comprising:

a plurality of information communication devices,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices is responsive to a respective information communication clock signal,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices is responsive to a common reference clock signal, and

wherein the information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices is associated with the common reference clock signal; and

a phase controller,

wherein the phase controller is responsive to the common reference clock signal, and

wherein the phase controller alters a phase of the common reference clock signal for each of the plurality of information communication devices by a predetermined amount to alter a phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices by the predetermined amount to at least double a combined ~~frequency~~ amplitude of individual ~~frequencies~~ waveforms of output current events of the plurality of information communication devices.

38. (Original) The information communication system of claim 37, wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices comprises:

a device clock for generating the respective information communication clock signal using the common reference clock signal altered by the phase controller.

39. (Original) The information communication system of claim 37, comprising:

a reference clock signal generator for generating the common reference clock signal.

40. (Original) The information communication system of claim 37, wherein the phase controller alters the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices by a multiple of 90 degrees.

41. (Original) The information communication system of claim 37,

wherein the phase of at least two of the information communication clock signals are substantially identical, and

wherein a number of information communication clock signals with substantially identical phase is less than a total number of information communication clock signals of the information communication system.

42. (Original) The information communication system of claim 37, wherein the phase controller comprises:

a plurality of time delay elements.

43. (Original) The information communication system of claim 42, wherein the plurality of time delay elements comprises:

a plurality of delay locked loops.

44. (Original) The information communication system of claim 42,

wherein the plurality of time delay elements are arranged in cascade, and

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices is in communication with at least one of the plurality of time delay elements.

45. (Original) The information communication system of claim 42,

wherein the phase controller further comprises:

at least one delay locked loop,

wherein the at least one delay locked loop is in communication with each of the plurality of information communication devices via an information communication channel, and

wherein each information communication channel includes at least one of the plurality of time delay elements.

46. (Original) The information communication system of claim 37, wherein the information communication system comprises an Ethernet transceiver.

47. (Original) The information communication system of claim 46, wherein the Ethernet transceiver is compliant with I.E.E.E. 802.3ab.

48. (Currently Amended) An information communication system, comprising:

a plurality of information communication means,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means is responsive to a respective information communication clock signal,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means is responsive to a common reference clock signal, and

wherein each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means is associated with the common reference clock signal; and

phase controller means,

wherein the phase controller means is responsive to the common reference clock signal, and

wherein the phase controller means alters a phase of the common reference clock signal for each of the plurality of information communication means by a predetermined amount to alter a phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means by the

predetermined amount to at least double a combined ~~frequency~~ amplitude of individual ~~frequencies~~ waveforms of output current events of the plurality of information communication means.

49. (Original) The information communication system of claim 48, wherein each of the plurality of information communication means comprises:

means for generating the respective information communication clock signal using the common reference clock signal altered by the phase controller means.

50. (Original) The information communication system of claim 48, comprising:

means for generating the common reference clock signal.

51. (Original) The information communication system of claim 48, wherein the phase controller means alters the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means by a multiple of 90 degrees.

52. (Original) The information communication system of claim 48,

wherein the phase of at least two of the information communication clock signals are substantially identical, and

wherein a number of information communication clock signals with substantially identical phase is less than a total number of information communication clock signals of the information communication system.

53. (Original) The information communication system of claim 48, wherein the phase controller means comprises:

a plurality of time delay means.

54. (Original) The information communication system of claim 53, wherein the plurality of time delay means comprises:

a plurality of delay locked loop means.

55. (Original) The information communication system of claim 53,

wherein the plurality of time delay means are arranged in cascade, and

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means is in communication with at least one of the plurality of time delay means.

56. (Original) The information communication system of claim 53,

wherein the phase controller means further comprises:

at least one delay locked loop means,

wherein the at least one delay locked loop means is in communication with each of the plurality of information communication means via an information communication channel means, and

wherein each information communication channel means includes at least one of the plurality of time delay means.

57. (Original) The information communication system of claim 48, wherein the information communication system comprises an Ethernet transceiver means.

58. (Original) The information communication system of claim 57, wherein the Ethernet transceiver means is compliant with I.E.E.E. 802.3ab.

59. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling phase of clock signals among a plurality of information communication devices of an information communication system, comprising the steps of:

receiving a common reference clock signal,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices is responsive to the common reference clock signal;

altering a phase of the common reference clock signal for each of the plurality of information communication devices by a predetermined amount; and

generating an information communication clock signal for each of the plurality of information communication devices using the ~~respective phase-altered~~ common reference clock signal that was phase altered,

wherein a phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices is altered by the predetermined amount to at least double a combined ~~frequency~~ amplitude of individual ~~frequencies~~ waveforms of output current events of the plurality of information communication devices.

60. (Original) The method of claim 59, wherein the step of altering comprises the step of:

time delaying the common reference clock signal supplied to each of the plurality of information communication devices by the predetermined amount.

61. (Original) The method of claim 59, comprising the step of:

generating the common reference clock signal.

62. (Original) The method of claim 59, wherein the step of altering comprises the step of:

altering the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices by a multiple of 90 degrees.

63. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 59,

wherein ~~the~~ a phase of at least two of the information communication signals are substantially identical, and

wherein a number of information communication clock signals with substantially identical phase is less than a total number of information communication clock signals of the information communication system.

64. (Original) The method of claim 59, wherein the method is compliant with I.E.E.E. 802.3ab.

65. (Currently Amended) A multi-port network device compliant with I.E.E.E. 802.3ab, comprising:

a plurality of transceivers, wherein each of the plurality of transceivers comprises:

a plurality of information communication devices,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices is responsive to a respective information communication clock signal, and

wherein each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices is associated with a common reference clock signal; and

a phase controller,

wherein the phase controller is responsive to the common reference clock signal, and

wherein the phase controller alters a phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices by a predetermined amount to at least double a combined ~~frequency~~ amplitude of individual ~~frequencies~~ waveforms of output current events of the plurality of information communication devices.

66. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 65,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices is responsive to the common reference clock signal altered by the phase controller, and

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices comprises:

a device clock for generating the respective information communication clock signal using the common reference clock signal.

67. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 66, wherein the phase controller alters a phase of the common reference clock signal for each of the plurality of information communication devices by the predetermined amount to alter the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices by the predetermined amount.

68. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 65, comprising:

a reference clock signal generator for generating the common reference clock signal.

69. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 65, wherein the phase controller alters the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices by a multiple of 90 degrees.

70. (Currently Amended) The multi-port network device of claim 65,

wherein ~~the~~ a phase of at least two of the information communication clock signals are substantially identical, and

wherein a number of information communication clock signals with substantially identical phase is less than a total number of information communication clock signals of the multi-port network device.

71. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 65, wherein the phase controller comprises:

a phase locked loop; and

a signal division controller in communication with the phase locked loop,

wherein the signal division controller is configured to control a start time of signal division of an output signal of the phase locked loop,

wherein the output signal is associated with the information communication clock signal, and

wherein the start time of signal division of the output signal is varied to alter the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices.

72. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 65, wherein the phase controller comprises:

a plurality of time delay elements.

73. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 72, wherein the plurality of time delay elements comprises:

a plurality of delay locked loops.

74. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 72,

wherein the plurality of time delay elements are arranged in cascade, and

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices is in communication with at least one of the plurality of time delay elements.

75. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 72,

wherein the phase controller further comprises:

at least one delay locked loop,

wherein the at least one delay locked loop is in communication with each of the plurality of information communication devices via an information communication channel, and

wherein each information communication channel includes at least one of the plurality of time delay elements.

76. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 65, wherein the plurality of transceivers comprise one of four and eight.

77. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 65, wherein each of the plurality of transceivers comprises an Ethernet transceiver.

78. (Currently Amended) A multi-port network device compliant with I.E.E.E. 802.3ab, comprising:

a plurality of transceiver means, wherein each of the plurality of transceiver means comprises:

a plurality of information communication means,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means is responsive to a respective information communication clock signal, and

wherein each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means is associated with a common reference clock signal; and

phase controller means,

wherein the phase controller means is responsive to the common reference clock signal, and

wherein the phase controller means alters a phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means by a predetermined amount to at least double a combined ~~frequency~~ amplitude of individual ~~frequencies~~ waveforms of output current events of the plurality of information communication means.

79. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 78,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means is responsive to the common reference clock signal altered by the phase controller means, and

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means comprises:

means for generating the respective information communication clock signal using the common reference clock signal.

80. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 79, wherein the phase controller means alters a phase of the common reference clock signal for each of the plurality of information communication means by the predetermined amount to alter the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of

the plurality of information communication means by the predetermined amount.

81. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 78, comprising:

means for generating the common reference clock signal.

82. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 78, wherein the phase controller means alters the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means by a multiple of 90 degrees.

83. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 78,

wherein the phase of at least two of the information communication clock signals are substantially identical,

wherein a number of information communication clock signals with substantially identical phase is less than a total number of information communication clock signals of the multi-port network device.

84. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 78, wherein the phase controller means comprises:

a phase locked loop means; and

a signal division controller means in communication with the phase locked loop means,

wherein the signal division controller means is configured to control a start time of signal division of an output signal of the phase locked loop means,

wherein the output signal is associated with the information communication clock signal, and

wherein the start time of signal division of the output signal is varied to alter the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means.

85. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 78, wherein the phase controller means comprises:

a plurality of time delay means.

86. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 85, wherein the plurality of time delay means comprises:

a plurality of delay locked loop means.

87. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 85, wherein the plurality of time delay means are arranged in cascade, and

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means is in communication with at least one of the plurality of time delay means.

88. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 85, wherein the phase controller means further comprises:

at least one delay locked loop means,

wherein the at least one delay locked loop means is in communication with each of the plurality of information communication means via an information communication channel means, and

wherein each information communication channel means includes at least one of the plurality of time delay means.

89. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 78, wherein the plurality of transceiver means comprise one of four and eight.

90. (Original) The multi-port network device of claim 89, wherein each of the plurality of transceiver means comprises an Ethernet transceiver means.

91. (Currently Amended) An information communication system, comprising:

a reference clock signal generator for generating a common reference clock signal;

a plurality of information communication devices,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices is responsive to the common reference clock signal,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices is responsive to a respective information communication clock signal,

wherein each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices is associated with the common reference clock signal; and

a phase controller,

wherein the phase controller is responsive to the common reference clock signal,

wherein the phase controller alters a phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices by a predetermined amount, and

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices comprises:

a device clock for generating the respective information communication clock signal using the common reference clock signal altered by the phase controller to at

least double a combined ~~frequency~~ amplitude of individual ~~frequencies~~ waveforms of output current events of the plurality of information communication devices.

92. (Original) The information communication system of claim 91, wherein the phase controller alters a phase of the common reference clock signal for each of the plurality of information communication devices by the predetermined amount to alter the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices by the predetermined amount.

93. (Original) The information communication system of claim 91, wherein the phase controller alters the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices by a multiple of 90 degrees.

94. (Original) The information communication system of claim 91,

wherein the phase of at least two of the information communication clock signals are substantially identical, and

wherein a number of information communication clock signals with substantially identical phase is less than a total

number of information communication clock signals of the information communication system.

95. (Original) The information communication system of claim 91, wherein the phase controller comprises:

a phase locked loop; and

a signal division controller in communication with the phase locked loop,

wherein the signal division controller is configured to control a start time of signal division of an output signal of the phase locked loop,

wherein the output signal is associated with the information communication clock signal, and

wherein the start time of signal division of the output signal is varied to alter the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication devices.

96. (Original) The information communication system of claim 91, wherein the phase controller comprises:

a plurality of time delay elements.

97. (Original) The information communication system of claim 96, wherein the plurality of time delay elements comprises:

a plurality of delay locked loops.

98. (Original) The information communication system of claim 96,

wherein the plurality of time delay elements are arranged in cascade, and

wherein each of the plurality of information communication devices is in communication with at least one of the plurality of time delay elements.

99. (Original) The information communication system of claim 96,

wherein the phase controller further comprises:

at least one delay locked loop,

wherein the at least one delay locked loop is in communication with each of the plurality of information communication devices via an information communication channel, and

wherein each information communication channel includes at least one of the plurality of time delay elements.

100. (Currently Amended) An information communication system, comprising:

means for generating a common reference clock signal;

a plurality of information communication means,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means is responsive to the common reference clock signal,

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means is responsive to a respective information communication clock signal,

wherein each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means is associated with the common reference clock signal; and

means for controlling phase,

wherein the means for controlling phase is responsive to the common reference clock signal,

wherein the means for controlling phase alters a phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means by a predetermined amount, and

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means comprises:

means for generating the respective information communication clock signal using the common reference clock

signal altered by the means for controlling phase to at least double a combined ~~frequency~~ amplitude of individual ~~frequencies~~ waveforms of output current events of the plurality of information communication devices.

101. (Original) The information communication system of claim 100, wherein the means for controlling phase alters a phase of the common reference clock signal for each of the plurality of information communication means by the predetermined amount to alter the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means by the predetermined amount.

102. (Original) The information communication system of claim 100, wherein the means for controlling phase alters the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means by a multiple of 90 degrees.

103. (Original) The information communication system of claim 100,

wherein the phase of at least two of the information communication clock signals are substantially identical, and

wherein a number of information communication clock signals with substantially identical phase is less than a total number of information communication clock signals of the information communication system.

104. (Original) The information communication system of claim 100, wherein the means for controlling phase comprises:

a phase locked loop means; and

means for controlling signal division in communication with the phase locked loop means,

wherein the means for controlling signal division is configured to control a start time of signal division of an output signal of the phase locked loop means,

wherein the output signal is associated with the information communication clock signal, and

wherein the start time of signal division of the output signal is varied to alter the phase of each information communication clock signal of each of the plurality of information communication means.

105. (Original) The information communication system of claim 100, wherein the means for controlling phase comprises:

a plurality of time delay means.

106. (Original) The information communication system of claim 105, wherein the plurality of time delay means comprises:

a plurality of delay locked loop means.

107. (Original) The information communication system of claim 105,

wherein the plurality of time delay means are arranged in cascade, and

wherein each of the plurality of information communication means is in communication with at least one of the plurality of time delay means.

108. (Original) The information communication system of claim 105, wherein the means for controlling phase further comprises:

at least one delay locked loop means,

wherein the at least one delay locked loop means is in communication with each of the plurality of information communication means via an information communication channel, and

wherein each information communication channel includes at least one of the plurality of time delay means.